

Supporting Materials and Methods

Frizzled Motif Associated with Bone Development (FRZB) Plasmid Constructs.

IMAGE clone 360887 was purchased from Invitrogen and sequenced. Based on reference sequence GenBank NM_001463.1, there was a polymorphism at position 526 representing a C to G base change. The cDNA was subcloned into pcDNA3 (Invitrogen) by using the flanking *EcoRI* sites, and the 526 polymorphism was reverted to the reference sequence (pcFRZB) by using the QuikChange XL site-directed mutagenesis kit (Stratagene). The C to G change at exon 6 [+109] was engineered by subcloning a PCR fragment between the internal *HindIII* site and an *XbaI* site following the stop codon (pcFRZB-Arg324Gly). Primers 5'-GAAGCTTCGTCATCTTGGACTCAG-3' and 5'-TCTAGATTAGTTGCCTGCTTGCCG-3' were used to create this fragment. The C to T polymorphism at exon 4 [+6] was introduced into pcFRZB and pcFRZB-Arg324Gly (creating pcFRZB-Arg200Trp and pcFRZB-Arg200Trp/Arg324Gly, respectively) by using primers 5'-ACAACTATGTCATTTGGGCTAAAGTTAAAGAG-3' and 5'-CTCTTTAACTTTAGCCCAAATGACATAGTTGT-3' and with the QuikChange XL kit (Stratagene) by following the manufacturer's instructions. All plasmids were sequence verified (University of California at San Diego Cancer Center Sequence Core Facility).

Cell Transfections. The human embryonic kidney cell line HEK293 (American Type Culture Collection) was maintained in DMEM with high glucose supplemented with 10% FBS and 100 µg/ml penicillin and 100 µg/ml streptomycin. Before transfection, cells were grown in logarithmic phase overnight in 12-well plates. At ~50% confluence, cells were transfected by using SuperFect (Qiagen, Valencia, CA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. For luciferase assays, typically cocktails of 0.25 µg of pTOPFLASH-Luc reporter gene vector, 0.025 µg of β-galactosidase expressing plasmid pACB-Z, 0.25 µg of β-catenin expressing plasmid (kindly provided by Hans Clevers, University Medical Center, Utrecht, The Netherlands) or 0.25 µg of pUSE-Wnt1 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology), and 1 µg of expression plasmid, and carrier DNA (pcDNA3, Invitrogen), for a total of 1.525 µg per well. Control cultures were transfected with pTOPFLASH-Luc and pACB-Z (a β-galactosidase expression vector) to establish the basal levels for the luciferase and β-galactosidase assays. After 2 h, the cells were given fresh medium and incubated for 24 h. Cells were harvested 24 h after transfection, disrupted in lysis buffer, and luciferase and β-galactosidase activities were determined by using the Dual Light reporter gene assay system (Applied Biosystems) and a microtiter plate luminometer (MicroBeta TriLux, Gaithersburg, MD). The luciferase values were normalized for variations in transfection efficiency by using the β-galactosidase internal control and are expressed as fold stimulation of luciferase activity compared with the designated control cultures. All of the transfection results represent means of a minimum of three independent transfections ± SEM.

Immunoblotting. After removing the medium and washing the cells with PBS, whole-cell lysates were prepared by disrupting cells in lysis buffer (10 mM Tris·HCl/150 mM NaCl/5 mM EDTA/1% Triton X-100/0.1% SDS) including phosphatase and protease inhibitor cocktails. Alternatively, separate cytosol and nuclear fractions were prepared by lysing cells in HEB buffer (20 mM Hepes/1 mM KCl/1 mM EGTA/1 mM EDTA/1 mM

DTT/1% Nonidet P-40/protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktails), and the soluble phase was separated by centrifugation. The nuclei were picked out and then further incubated in 20 mM Hepes/1 mM EGTA/1 mM EDTA/400 mM NaCl and vortexed. The residual membranes were pelleted by centrifugation, and the supernatant was removed. Each lane of an SDS/PAGE gel was loaded with 30 µg of protein. After electrophoresis, the proteins were transferred to a polyvinylidene difluoride membrane, blocked with 0.2% I-block (Tropix, Bedford, MA) containing 0.05% Tween 20 in PBS and incubated with anti-sFRP3 (R & D Systems). Horseradish peroxidase-conjugated anti-IgG (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) was used as the secondary antibody. The membranes were developed with a chemiluminescence system (ECL detection reagent, Amersham Pharmacia) and scanned. The membranes were stripped with Re-Blot Western blot recycling kit (Chemicon) and reprobed with other antibodies and actin monoclonal antibody (Sigma) as a control. Prestained molecular weight markers (Invitrogen) were used as reference.